

1911-1912

Norman Cross  
Rural District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

UPON THE

Sanitary Condition of the District

during the year 1946.







**To the Norman Cross Rural District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1946.

The report has been constructed on similar lines as last year's report, as requested by the Ministry of Health.

**STAFF.**

Medical Officer of Health ..... V. D. BUCHANAN, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed.

Sanitary Inspector ..... G. F. TAYLOR, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area .....	35795 acres
Estimated Population (mid 1946) .....	7181
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1946 ..	2190
Rateable Value .. ..	£29,204
Value of Penny Rate .....	£118

The Norman Cross Rural District consists of 16 parishes, a number of which are situated on the extensive deposit of Oxford Clay which forms the Fletton Brickfields in which a great many inhabitants of the district find employment.

With this exception the population is solely employed in agriculture. The South Western portion of the district is Fen Lands, land recovered by an extensive drainage system some fifty years ago, from what was formerly Whittlesea Mere.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS	Birth Rate per 1000 population	23.1
STILL BIRTHS	Rate per 1000 total births .. ..	11.9
DEATHS	Death rate per 1000 population .. ..	11.2
	Deaths from Puerperal Causes per 1000 total (live and still) births .....	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under One Year of age:—		
	All infants per 1,000 live births .....	12
	Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	13.7
	Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „ .....	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....		8
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....		Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....		Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....		Nil

## RATES

	Per 1,000 Population			Per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
Norman Cross R.D.C.	23.1	0.27	11.2	12
England & Wales	19.1	0.53	11.5	43

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures):—

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Males	Females	Totals
All Causes.		48	33	81
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	.....	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	.....	1	—	1
3. Scarlet Fever	.....	—	1	1
4. Whooping Cough	.....	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	.....	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	.....	—	3	3
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	.....	—	2	2
8. Syphilitic disease	.....	—	—	—
9. Influenza	.....	—	—	—
10. Measles	.....	—	—	—
11. Ac. polio-myel. & polio-enceph.	.....	—	—	—
12. Ac. inf. enceph.	.....	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buc. cav. & oesoph. (M) uterus (F)	.....	—	1	1
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum	.....	—	1	1
15. Cancer of Breast	.....	—	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	.....	5	—	5
17. Diabetes	.....	1	1	2
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	.....	3	4	7
19. Heart disease	.....	21	11	32
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	.....	1	—	1
21. Bronchitis	.....	1	1	2
22. Pneumonia	.....	2	—	2
23. Other respiratory diseases	.....	1	—	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	.....	—	—	—
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	.....	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis	.....	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	.....	—	—	—
28. Nephritis	.....	3	1	4
29. Puer. & post-abort. sepsis	.....	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	.....	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth	.....	—	—	—
32. Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	.....	2	—	2
33. Suicide	.....	—	—	—
34. Road Traffic Acc.	.....	—	—	—
35. Other violent causes	.....	—	—	—
36. All other causes	.....	7	6	13

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### (a) Laboratory Facilities :—

No change has taken place in the general arrangements during the past year. Bacteriological specimens from Practitioners in the district are examined and reported upon at the Pathological Department of the Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, or by the Pathological Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

### (b) Ambulance Facilities :—

- (1) For the removal of infectious cases a motor ambulance is available at the Isolation Hospital, Huntingdon.
- (2) For non-infectious and accident cases excellent provision is made by Peterborough City Authority and London Brick Company.

### (c) Nursing in the Home :—

Nursing in the district is carried on by the District Nursing Associations under the supervision of the County Council. The nurses employed carry out the general nursing in the district, and attend the majority of maternity cases.

No provision is made for the home visiting of Measles, Whooping Cough and Infantile Diarrhoea.

All cases of Tuberculosis are visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor and a report with details of home conditions and circumstances is completed.

### (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres :—

Infant Welfare work in the Farcet area is carried out under the auspices of a voluntary body, the Fletton, Woodston and Stanground Infant Welfare Association, at their clinic in London Road. The Infant Welfare Clinic has weekly sessions on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

In addition the Hunts. County Council provide the following Clinics :—

#### **YAXLEY.**

An Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Village Hall every 4th Friday in the month from 2-30—4-30 p.m.

#### **ELTON.**

In April 1945 an Infant Welfare Centre was opened in this Village. This centre also serves the surrounding Villages. It is held in the Heighgate Hall on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2-30—4-30 p.m.



The Hunts. County Council provide the following health services :—

School Clinic (Minor Ailment)	.....	London Road Clinic, Old Fletton, Every Wednesday 9-30—12.
Eyes	.....	London Road Clinic. By Appt.
Dental Clinic	.....	High Street, Old Fletton.
Tuberculosis	.....	High Street, Old Fletton.
Orthopaedic	..	Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, Every Monday 2-15 p.m. By Appt.
Nose, Throat & Ear Clinic.....		Memorial Hospital every Wednesday at 3 p.m. By Appt.
Venereal Diseases	.....	28, Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough. Men—Tuesday and Friday 6—8 p.m. Women—Tuesday and Friday 3-30—6 p.m.

Under the Ante and Post Natal Scheme, provided by the County Council, expectant mothers are examined twice during their pregnancy (or oftener if necessary) and once after confinement.

**(e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary :—**

- (1) Fever—The treatment of infectious diseases is carried out at the Hospital for Infectious Diseases at Huntingdon, which is provided by the Joint Hospital Board.
- (2) The Peterborough Memorial Hospital continues to carry out the general hospital service in the district. At this hospital facilities for In-patient and Out-patient treatment of General Medical or Surgical Cases are available.

**(3) Maternity Hospital :—**

Provision is made for the reception of necessitous Maternity Cases into either, the Emergency Maternity Hospital, Paxton Park, or St. John's Hospital, Peterborough.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

Surveyor's Office,  
Booster Station,  
Yaxley, Peterborough.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I beg to present my second annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1946.

The volume of work, as shown in the details below, is increasing although progress in new work is slow.

### **New Housing.**

Contracts for 30 houses have been let during the year but materials and labour are difficult. Sufficient land is in hand and layouts prepared for three years.

### **Civil Licensing.**

The Council are responsible for licensing of new houses and building works between £10 and £100. 16 licences for new houses were granted and 180 other licences.

### **Water Supply.**

Permission has been received to invite tenders for the extra mains in Holme, Denton and Caldecote and Stibbington areas and the Consulting Engineers are proceeding therewith.

### **Sewerage.**

Notification of the Ministry's contribution to the five Parish scheme has been received and the Engineers are preparing reports for all the other Parishes in the district.

### **Refuse Collection.**

A scheme of collection by direct labour has been approved and a new Dennis 10 cubic yard Freighter has been ordered and also a trailer for salvage collection.

### **Housing Survey.**

With the return of Mr. Braybrooke from the forces a start has been made but very shortly he obtained another appointment. The Ministry of Health have agreed to the appointment of an additional Sanitary Inspector and advertisements have been issued.



## Summary of Visits.

The following is a summary of visits carried out by the department during the year.

Inspections re Nuisances	128
„ „ Infectious Diseases	31
„ „ Cowsheds & Dairies	20
„ „ Housing Acts	321
„ „ Council & other houses	954
„ „ Salvage	54
„ „ Water Supply	232
„ „ Rats & Mice	18
„ „ Factories & Workshops (including Bakehouses)	27
„ „ Sewers & Works	249
„ „ New Housing Sites	118
„ „ New Buildings and Civil Licences	228
„ „ Caravans, &c.	16
„ „ New Drains	45
„ „ Refuse Collection	80
„ „ Interviews and Committees	79
	—
Total	2600
	—

## Plans.

The following plans have been received:—

New Dwellings 58; Additions and Alterations to Dwellings 13; Garages 14; Greenhouses 8; Farm Buildings 11; Alterations to Schools 1; Temporary Buildings 4; Factories 6; Offices 3; Housing Layouts 8 for 142 houses; Temporary Houses 12.

Each plan is considered and dealt with under Building Bye-laws and Town Planning this Council being the Interim Development Authority under the Town & Country Planning Acts and acting in conjunction with the Joint County Advisory Committee.

Total No. of Inspections re Nuisances	171
„ „ „ Notices served	61
(Informal	61
Statutory	3)

Complaints received	Total No. of	75
Premises, houses, etc.	No. inspected	56
	Nuisances abated	36
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse	No. inspected	16
	Nuisances abated	13
Animals improperly kept	No. inspected	Nil
	Nuisances abated	Nil
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit	No. inspected	51
	Nuisances abated	43
Drain, Drain-traps, etc., etc.	No. inspected	37
	Nuisances abated	34
House, or part thereof, overcrowded	No. inspected	1
	Nuisances abated	Nil
Smoke nuisances	No. of observations	Nil
	Nuisances abated	Nil
Offensive accumulations	No. inspected	7
	Nuisances abated	6
Other sanitary conditions	No. inspected	Nil
	Nuisances abated	Nil
Slaughter houses	No. licensed or registered	Nil
	No. of inspections	Nil
Offensive trades (Health Act 1936)	No. established	1
	No. of inspections	3
Housing Act, 1936	No. houses condemned	Nil
	No. closed	Nil
	No. made habitable	31
Food—seizures of unwholesome	No. of	Nil

Infectious Disease	}	Houses affected with	
		Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria	
		and Erysipelas	13
		Houses inspected	25
		No. of inspections	31
		Houses disinfected	25
		Schools	Nil
		Disinfectant used	Izal in rooms
		Lots of clothing disinfected	Nil
		„ „ destroyed	Nil



Privy Middens	{	New provided	Nil
		No. repaired	2
		No. converted to pails	2
		No. converted to W.C's	4
Pail or Earth Closets	{	New provided	Nil
		No. converted to W.C's	12
		Cesspools cleaned	35
		New Cesspools	28
Water closets	{	New provided	16
		No. supplied with water	16
Ashbins	{	New provided	2
		Samples taken for analysis	5
		„ condemned	5
		Wells closed	Nil
Water supply	{	Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	2
		Public supply substituted for well or pond	8
		Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered	Nil
		Waste pipes disconnected from drain	5
Housing, etc., Act, 1936	{	No. houses closed	Nil
		„ „ made habitable	31
		„ „ demolished	Nil
Building Bye Laws adopted			15/7/39
Total Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses, etc.			Nil
Convictions			Nil

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1937.

Factories	{	Total number on Register (including bakehouses)	33
		No. in which nuisances abated	2
Bakehouses	{	No. on register	8
		No. in which nuisances abated	1
Homework	{	No. of outworkers	Nil
		No. of Houses	Nil
		No. of infected houses	Nil

### Conclusion.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Council for their courtesy and consideration. to the Medical Officer of Health and the Clerk of the Council for their valued help during the year.

GEO. F. TAYLOR,

24th May, 1947.

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.

The following table gives the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during 1946.

[illegible]



**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

In the early part of the year, in common with the surrounding districts an outbreak of food poisoning occurred. The epidemic was fortunately of a mild type. Pathological examination showed the the infecting organism to be that of Sonne Dysentry.

Of the twelve Scarlet Fever notifications, one case occurred in July, the rest being in the last quarter of the year. All but one were removed to Hospital

The one case of Diphtheria had not previously received Diphtheria Immunisation.

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

The following table sets out the number of children immunised in the district, together with the figure of the total child population:—

UNDER 5 YEARS		BETWEEN 5—15 YEARS.	
Number immunised	Estimated Population	Number immunised	Estimated Population
270	619	1048	1150

## Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
15 .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 .....	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
35 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
65 & upwards.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :—	1	2	1	—	—	4	—	1

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 dealing with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

V. D. BUCHANAN,

Medical Officer of Health.







